New Unit 2 contract approved by faculty and BOT

The members of AAUP Unit 2 and the College Board of Trustees approved a new Unit 2 contract agreement last week.

The new contract goes into effect on Dec. 23.

The new agreement provides increases to base salary of 4.25 percent in each year of a two-year agreement.

In addition, Unit 2 members will be paid for overload teaching assignments at the same rate as the Unit 1 contract ($538 per contact hour).

The new Unit 2 contract will incorporate other changes made to the AAUP 1 contract last year, including:

- adding the Health and Wellness Program
- increasing life insurance benefits
- adding benefits eligibility for same-sex domestic partners
- remitting all fees except lab fees when taking College courses
- revising the contract language on hiring procedures for faculty and academic administrators.

Unit 2 members will contribute 6 percent of the cost of their health insurance premiums, the same rate as members of Unit 1 and all other College employees.

Working days for members of Unit 2 will remain unchanged at 220 per year, and the number of personal days and vacation days for Unit 2 members will continue unchanged from the current Unit 2 contract.

The new Unit 2 contract will expire in December 2011. The current contract for AAUP 1 expires in September 2011.

Unit 2 currently has five members, all of whom are full-time counselors or advisors. Four new positions in this unit are expected to be filled by the beginning of Winter Term.

Faculty Chief Negotiator Geoff Woolf said the bargaining teams reached a tentative agreement on Wednesday.

“We did not achieve everything we had hoped to gain for these faculty members,” Geoff said. “The members of Unit 2 still are not treated equitably with their colleagues in Unit 1 who perform exactly the same work, and are required to work 40 fewer days.”

“However, the significant salary increase for these faculty members is a step in the right direction, and recognizes in a tangible way that their additional work has value,” Geoff said.

Chapter President Paul Davis said, “In future bargaining, we will continue to press for equity between Unit 1 and Unit 2 members in the two areas that are significantly different—workload, and tenure eligibility.”

Geoff said the negotiation sessions were cordial and productive.

“We were able to resolve this contract in two bargaining sessions, lasting a total of about four hours,” Geoff said. “I think that was possible because both sides tried to focus in on the things that really mattered and bargain in good faith, and not spend time playing negotiation games.”

“I hope this approach can be continued in future negotiations,” Geoff said.

Along with Geoff, the AAUP bargaining team members were Pam Ecker and Julie McLaughlin.

The administration bargaining team members were Gene Breyer (Chief), Tony Cruz, and Donna DuVall.
Food drive for Freestore Foodbank ends 12/18

The AAUP Service Committee is conducting the third annual Food Drive for the Cincinnati Freestore Foodbank until December 18.

Collection barrels are available in each division and the Welcome Center.

In addition to nonperishable food items, donations of new or clean, gently used hats, gloves and scarves are welcomed.

AAUP hopes all members of the College community will consider contributing to help those in need.

Last year AAUP faculty and the College community contributed 345 pounds of food items and 365 dollars donated to the Freestore Foodbank.

Please contact Cindy Kneip, Andrea Feld, Linda Schaffeld or Linda Romero-Smith with questions or to make a cash donation.

Vote on AAUP Bylaws changes ends Friday at noon

AAUP Chapter members have until noon on Friday, Dec. 18, to vote on the proposed changes to the Chapter Constitution and Bylaws.

Any Chapter member who did not receive a ballot should contact Chapter Secretary Peggy Rolfsen.

The proposed revisions and an explanation of the reason for each revision are available on the Chapter website.

AAUP wishes to all members of the College community a delightful holiday season and an engaging & productive new year